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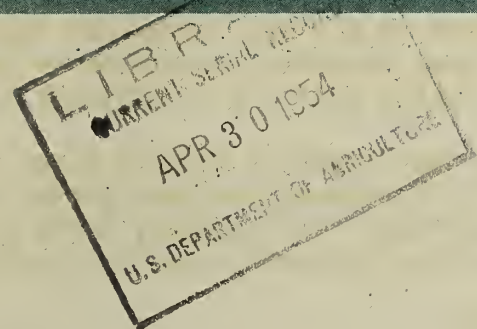
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IDEAS about 4-H Clubs and YMW



Extension Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture



No. 7
Washington 25, D. C.
April 14, 1954

For your information
and appropriate action

Dear Coworkers:

You have generously shared many of the fine tributes which were paid to the 4-H Club program during National 4-H Club Week. In turn, we wish we could share them all with you. May we quote here three very pertinent statements:

From Dr. Carl R. Woodward, President of the University of Rhode Island:

"Every year we see more and more evidence of the contributions which 4-H activities are making to America's future leadership. As our society grows more complex, and as the developments of science and technology change our ways of life, the need for maintaining and strengthening the basic virtues which characterized the founders of our Nation becomes increasingly apparent. The 4-H program goes farther than the customary formal education, by pointing a definite occupational objective, showing the how as well as the why, and providing practical experiences which cultivate a sense of civic responsibility and of obligation to society particularly for our rural communities."

From Dr. James A. McCain, President of Kansas State College:

"National 4-H Club Week is an excellent time to commend 4-H Club work as the kind of training in which rural youth learn not only better ways of farming and homemaking but, even more important, the highest principles of good citizenship. 4-H Club members acquire a spirit of cooperativeness and usefulness as they work and play together in agricultural and home economics projects and serve their communities through various worthwhile activities."

From Director-Emeritus R. K. Bliss, of Iowa.

"There are also other very important things (besides project work) which 4-H Club work teaches. 4-H Club work teaches better and more capable citizenship. And what are the requirements of good citizenship? Well, of course, one must be honest and fair in his dealings with others, pay his debts and comply with the law. But there are still other things that present-day civilization requires--one of them is learning how to live with and get along with neighbors. Among the many things that Club work teaches, I would like to especially emphasize cooperation."

NATIONAL 4-H CLUB SUNDAY - COMING SOON

4-H Club Sunday, one of the highlights of the year, is rapidly approaching. The occasion of Rural Life Sunday, May 23, is chosen by many States as the time for 4-H'ers to participate, as a group, in the services of the church of their choice. This means of calling attention to the spiritual values and character-building qualities of 4-H Club work, has the full endorsement of the 4-H Committee on Spiritual Emphasis, appointed by the 4-H Subcommittee. Representatives of the major faiths serve as consultants to this group.

You will note a supplement to this issue of "Ideas" gives a listing of references relating to this event. We commend the many States that have prepared source materials in this connection. For example, North Carolina, South Dakota, Indiana, and Virginia have prepared excellent manuals that we have seen.

MORE ABOUT NATIONAL CAMP PLANS

Here is a brief resume of some of the plans:

Theme - Your Government, 4-H, and You.

Points of Emphasis - We hope you will like the reemphasis on citizenship and the youth participation in program planning.

Program Development Committees - The Extension Subcommittee on 4-H Club work designated certain of the committees to meet this year. This is in line with Organization and Policy Committee approval that National Camp be the apex of 4-H program planning. The tentative list of committees includes those on foods and nutrition, livestock, soil and water conservation, project criteria, study of national 4-H event, spiritual emphasis, uniforms and supplies, forestry, and the committees to plan delegates' and leaders' programs for Club Congress.

Donors' Meeting - The annual Donors' Meeting will be held on June 21 and 22, here at National Camp, instead of in Chicago.

National Camp Citations - The suggestion of the Subcommittee is that we ask the States to make National Camp citation and gold key nominations on forms which we mail out with "Ideas." We urge you to nominate, by May 1:

Camp Citations:

1. Friends of 4-H who have made outstanding contributions on a nationwide scale. Check the enclosed citation plan and list of former recipients.
2. Retired Federal, State, and assistant State club leaders.
(So few of these, a special form is not attached.)

Gold Keys:

State and assistant State leaders who have served for 25 years or more (including both county and State Extension experience with youth work) and who are currently employed.

Wives Are Welcome - Wives of State leaders are welcome at National Camp time. However, we would like to know of any who will attend, so special occasions can be planned for them.

TRAVEL REQUESTS

Under the plan now in operation, Mr. Ferguson will soon be asking State directors to make known your needs for assistance from our office for the next 6 month period. From our standpoint, the present travel request plan has been very helpful. We urge you to anticipate and list with your director the ways we can best serve your needs.

4-H FELLOWSHIPS

May 1 is the deadline date for 4-H fellowship nominations. We hope you have encouraged the promising young staff members or 4-H leaders in your State to apply. Applications go to Miss Mary Louise Collings of the Division of Extension Research and Training.

REQUESTS FOR ENDORSEMENT

Like you, we are constantly being asked to endorse for 4-H participation, various humanitarian and other causes, or to alert State 4-H leaders to products related to 4-H projects or activities. You would understand that we try to exert judgment about the type and number of materials that are mailed to you as a result of these contacts.

Although we always give pointed instructions that we are not endorsing the "cause" or the product, the implication is frequently made, and we are puzzled about how to avoid the situation. An example: In response to a request from a magazine, we stated "...we cannot be in a position of promoting any one magazine, or of having you say that we are endorsing a program like this, however worthy. There are very definite policies under which we operate."

With that indicated, we were surprised to read the following in the transmittal letter from the magazine, "Mr. E. W. Aiton, Director of the 4-H and YMW Program, suggested that you might be interested in helping SEE magazine publicize the desperate plight of Asia's one billion starving human beings. The May issue of SEE, on sale now, will awaken millions of Americans to this crucial problem. We know you'll want to bring the article to the attention of your club members..." etc.

Obviously our trust, in this case, was misused.

ALONG THAT SAME LINE

The advertisement by Hess and Clark in the April issue of Better Farming Methods was not authorized. In fact, it was expressly stated to be unauthorized about February 1. Both the National Committee on Boys and Girls Club Work and this office are requesting explanations and are advising the advertiser that the essay contest is not approved.

A STATE LOOKS AT ITS PROBLEMS

Finding "opportunities for their young people" headed the list of problems Missouri counties brought to light when they met to analyze their problems and rebuild county rural programs. The Missouri plan of operation recommends that county extension workers get the rural people together every 5 years for this type of consideration. Ninety counties have already done this and 14 are now in process of doing so.

SCHOLARSHIPS TO A.I.C. SUMMER SESSION

One or more outstanding 4-H or YMW members in each State--a boy or a girl--will have an opportunity this year to receive a scholarship totaling \$50 to help defray expenses to the annual summer session of the American Institute of Cooperation to be held at Cornell University, August 15-19. A State may use the money to defray expenses for a group to attend, if it prefers.

The scholarships are being awarded by the institute in recognition of the splendid cooperation given by extension workers during the past years and at past summer sessions. At each session since 1949 there has been a commendable increase in 4-H Club attendance, with 21 States represented in 1953.

ENCAMPMENT FOR CITIZENSHIP

State 4-H Club workers will be contacted soon by letter from Mr. William G. Shannon, Executive Director, Encampment for Citizenship, 2 West 64th Street, New York 23, N. Y. The annual Encampment for young citizens, 17 to 23 years of age, will be held near New York City, in June.

Since about 1946 the Encampment has included a few representative young people sent by several States from 4-H and YMW groups. The study program includes discussions on current problems, tours and trips to industrial, labor, and social service organizations and institutions. Well-known lecturers and visiting experts are featured. Dr. Robert Clark or Albert Hoefer, State 4-H Club Leaders from Wisconsin and New York, respectively, can give more direct reports about participants from their States. We have reviewed the letter which Mr. Shannon is using in contacting you about participation in the Encampment.

PLANS FOR NEPPCO

A group of State 4-H Club leaders and poultry extension specialists met recently to plan the 4-H program to be scheduled in conjunction with the 1954 Northeastern Poultry Producers Exposition. The exposition will be held at the Farm Show Building, Harrisburg, Pa., from October 5 to 7, 1954.

JUNIOR POULTRY FACT-FINDING CONFERENCE

This event is announced for February 12-14, 1955, in Kansas City, Mo. It is open, as last year, to four 4-H boys and girls. Other plans will be sent you and poultry specialists.

FIRST AID MATERIALS FOR CAMPS

The arrangement for mercurochrome supplies to be available for county 4-H Camps is again in effect for 1954. Watch for a letter detailing the distribution proposal.

LOST AND FOUND

May we remind you, once more, of the camera someone left at last National Camp. We are still waiting for it to be claimed.

TRISTATE CONFERENCE - YMW

The fourth TriState Conference for YMW was held at Pocono Manor, Pa., April 2 to 4, with 350 delegates from 7 States and 5 foreign countries attending. Workshop groups were held in education, civil defense, community service, community health, recreation, song leadership, games, folk dancing, program methods, promotion, business, and planning by extension workers.

Dr. M. E. John and Dr. Wm. Smith, of Pennsylvania State University, and the Rev. Stanley Skinner, of Ithaca, were principal speakers. C. P. Lang, of Pennsylvania, and R. S. Smith, of Cornell, were general and program chairmen.

DATES OF OTHER YOUTH CONFERENCES

April 22 - 23 Appalachian YMW Conference, Johnson City, Tenn., for Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Kentucky.
The purpose is to share ideas on ways to better serve the educational needs of this age group.

June 4 - 6 Western Regional Conference, Peru, Nebr.

Sept. 30-Oct. 3 Rural Youth U.S.A. Conference, Jackson's Mill, W. Va.

IFYE COMMITTEE MEETS

The April 8 and 9 meeting of the National IFYE Advisory Committee in Washington included Federal, State, and county extension workers, representatives of the Foreign Agricultural Service and the Institute of International Education, two former IFYE delegates, and the staff members of the National 4-H Club Foundation who are concerned with the program. The first half day was devoted to a report of the present status of the program, and the remainder of the time was given to examining policy questions and establishing guiding principles for the further development of IFYE in the period ahead.

CITIZENSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The 4-H Citizenship Development Committee met in Washington March 30 and 31, with all regions represented, and C. B. Wadleigh as chairman. National Camp meetings will bring an opportunity to share their progress.

RECENT OFFICE CONFERENCES

Some other friends with whom we have had recent profitable conferences are Miss Mary North, of the Wool Bureau, Anne Ford, of the Girl Scouts, Bob VanDuyn, of the Kellogg Foundation, and Louis Wilson, of the Plant Food Council.

SHARING THE GOOD IDEAS

- Alaska
(Annual Conference) - The 4-H program in the Northland was featured at the recent Territorial Extension Conference. Work in 4-H, like other phases of Extension, is directed towards making the Territory more self-sustaining in its food supply.
- Georgia
(State Camp) - Negro county and home demonstration agents, along with the club members, will raise \$10,000 for a cottage at their State 4-H camp at Dublin. This was decided at the agents' 4-H Club training meeting held at the camp last month.
- Indiana
(Public Affairs) - Indiana Rural Youth have a timely and current issue as the topic for their April Senior Nights series. Each of the 10 district meetings will consider: "Resolved that legal voting age should be lowered to 18 years." The topic will first be debated by four Rural Youthers - two affirmative and two negative from different counties.
- Iowa
(Life Plans) - "Molding Our Future" challenged the rural young people who attended the Iowa State College program March 19-21. Four major areas of the theme were considered: A Modern Approach to Marriage and Family Life, This I Believe, How Well Do I Like My Job?, and Young People's Place in Their Community.
- Illinois
(International) - Illinois Clubs are using many good ideas to make our National 4-H theme live for them. From their list of eleven, here are two good ideas:
1. Adopt a club, family or individual in a foreign country and send CARE packages or supplies which they need.
2. Make a scrapbook of 4-H Club and community activities, and exchange it for a scrapbook of a 4-H Club in some other country.
- Kansas
(Leaders' Conference) - Dates for the State 4-H Club leaders' conference are April 19 to 21. The conference is planned for both community leaders and project leaders.
- Massachusetts
(Choosing Careers) - Girls of high school age or out of school participated in an annual 4-H Teen Tour, where they gained first-hand information about careers open to women. Twelve career tours gave each girl a chance to select the ones of most interest to her.
- Minnesota
(Citizenship) - The 4-H radio public speaking contest, themed to What Our Bill of Rights Means to Me, has stimulated over 1,000 members to prepare and deliver talks. County winners participated in 17 district contests which were broadcast over radio stations throughout the State.

- Missouri
(Health) - The 4-H health program deserves special attention - 21,000 different 4-H members took part. Twenty percent of the 4-H enrollment had physical examinations, double the number reported the previous year. Examinations showed irregular and decayed teeth are the most prevalent disability. Missouri folks see an important job ahead.
- Montana
(Exchanges) - An international exchange of several years' standing takes place between Montana and the Province of Alberta, Canada. A delegation of Canadian 4-H youth come to Bozeman for State 4-H Congress, and four Montana delegates go to Alberta for 4-H Club Week. A county exchange of long standing also exists between Blaine County and Saskatchewan.
- Pennsylvania
(Visiting) - We asked Bill Jeffries to give us some highlights of his visit to several Southern States. Bill reports: "I gained many ideas and a good deal of inspiration. One looks with awe at the size of the program in some States, but when you get there and see it in operation you find they are also trying to do something for rural boys and girls regardless of color or conditions. The approach maybe different, but we all have the same thing in mind."
- Tennessee
(State Congress) - The Tennessee 4-H Club Congress, seventh annual, to be held April 25-27, will again feature an organization plan similar to the United States---with Senate, House of Representatives, President and Cabinet, and the Judiciary all represented. Delegates will devote their time to learning more about their State capital-Nashville-and more about serving as loyal citizens through 4-H.
- Virginia
(Home Improvement) - A new record of 10,600 members registered for home improvement projects was reached last year, one of the highest records in the Nation. This enrollment includes many boys. The specialist in Virginia is Ruth Jamison, co-author along with Tena Bishop, of Massachusetts, of the new Home Improvement Leaders' Guide.
- West Virginia
(Anniversary) - The Wetzel County YMW group sponsored a successful program honoring the 50th anniversary of Extension Service work. A 50-pound anniversary cake and ice cream were served to the visitors by the YMW group.
- Wisconsin
(Music and Drama) - State Club Week, next June, will feature a statewide 4-H band and a 4-H chorus. County recommendations for band and chorus will be made by the 4-H music committees. Drama and music ensemble groups chosen at the district festivals, also perform.
- Wyoming
(Safety) "Drive Sanely, Arrive Safely," 4-H Club signs remind all drivers entering Park County on six major routes. The highway reminders are mounted on steel posts in concrete.

LAND JUDGING TAKES HOLD

With the Third National Land-Judging Contest scheduled to be held April 29-30, many folks have expressed interest in 4-H activity of that nature. We quote Edd Roberts, extension soil conservationist of Oklahoma, about the training in that State: "Approximately 7,700 4-H Club members in Oklahoma were trained in land judging last year, with 350 attending the National Land-Judging School and Contest, 500 at the district land-judging contests, 220 at the three State fair schools, 175 at the Annual 4-H Club Roundup, 500 at the Cherokee and Guthrie experiment station land-judging schools and contests, and the balance at county land-judging events." A real record, we'd say.

LIGHT'S DIAMOND JUBILEE

May we alert you to plans for the electrical industry to join in an anniversary celebration, noting the 75th year since Thomas A. Edison's invention of the first practical incandescent lamp. On October 21, the entire electrical industry will begin this nationwide observance. The sponsoring committee calls the attention of the 4-H Clubs to this celebration because electricity is so important to agriculture and farm life. More about this as plans develop.

SOME NEW THINGS IN LITERATURE

Safety Manual

The 4-H Safety Committee has a leaders' manual near completion. Copies will be sent to each State and Territory, requesting its use in two counties in 1954. On the basis of these experiences, the manual is to be revised and printed for 1955.

New YMW Handbook

As a result of the Allerton Park Conference, a revision of the YMW Handbook is in process. A letter will be sent soon to your distribution officer requesting your estimated needs for this booklet. We suggest that you ask your distribution officer about this.

Fine New Leaflet

Congratulations to California on a new promotional leaflet, What 4-H Can Mean to You. This is one of the finest capsule presentations we have seen.

Helps From Breed Associations

Are you aware of the many helpful materials that breed associations are using as a part of their extension programs? Many of these are available to extension agents, as are other educational resources, in our work with dairy and livestock club members. Inquire of the local breed representatives or the national associations for films and other educational tools.

How To Keep It Current

Having the proper materials on hand when needed is a problem. Massachusetts is meeting this difficulty by using a "Literature List," which has proven very helpful. It is mailed annually to the counties--listing what is available and asking county club agents to report numbers on hand, additional numbers needed and the desired date for delivery. Horace Jones would be glad to share a copy with you. We understand Iowa, Wisconsin, Ohio, and probably some other States have similar plans.

Enclosed With This Issue of "Ideas":

1. Program Aids for National 4-H Sunday (mentioned elsewhere)
2. Summary Report of National 4-H Camp Citations (mentioned elsewhere)
3. Letter from M. P. Jones regarding "100 Years of Professional Entomology" (one copy per State)
4. How Does Your 4-H Foods and Nutrition Program Rate? This is a challenging summary prepared by Dr. Evelyn Blanchard for Extension nutrition specialists in response to requests for help in developing stronger 4-H foods work.
5. Extension's Coverage of Its Clientele, an analysis by M. C. Wilson, Director of the Division of Extension Research and Training.
6. A report of the Temporary Extension Committee on Business Activities of 4-H and YMW Groups, and three new publications in that area. These materials were assembled by James L. Robinson, of the Federal staff. Two of these are a continuation of the series Farmer Cooperation, an American Way. One of these, in use before civic groups, has proved effective in rural-urban relations.

To Come Later - of historical Value

A. B. Graham, of Ohio, is sending us 500 copies of a publication entitled "Rural School Agriculture," published in 1903. This tells of the work of the Boys' and Girls' Experiment Club, with reference to the accomplishments during the previous year.

We are glad to make such historical documents available to the States. If similar publications are available from other areas, we would welcome them for similar announcement.

4-H To Be Featured

Extension Service Review for June will feature 4-H Club Work. The aim is to share with county and State staff members the highlights of National Camp and current emphasis in Club work.

RECENT WORD FROM TWO OF OUR GOOD 4-H FRIENDS

Ray Turner says he's pleased to be able to write "Mission accomplished," so far as the National 4-H Club Songbook assignment is concerned. Like us, you will probably also want to add "and well accomplished." Many of you have expressed the feeling that the new songbook is a distinct credit to 4-H.

We are happy to report that Gus Brundage is on his way home from Formosa, for vacation in the States, but with plans to return for another year on the foreign assignment. We'll have the welcome mat out for him at National Camp.

NEW ON THE STATE STAFFS

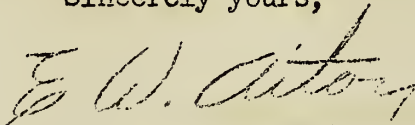
Miss Evelyn Barker joins the Virginia staff as associate State 4-H Club agent. Miss Barker has been serving as a home demonstration agent in Maryland.

Michigan welcomes Raymond R. Ranta on the State 4-H staff. Ray has been a county 4-H agent.

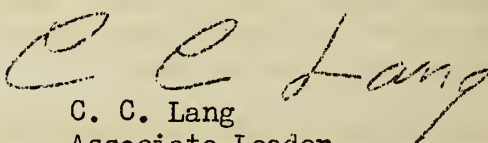
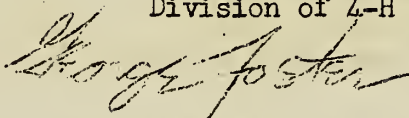
ON THE SICK LIST

Martin C. Altenburg, a coworker of North Dakota, is back in the hospital. Friends can write to him at 1213 North First Street, Fargo, N. Dak.

Sincerely yours,

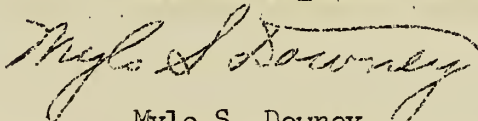


E. W. Aiton, Director
Division of 4-H Club and YMW Programs

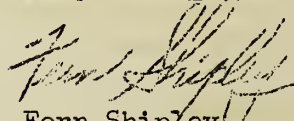


George Foster
Associate Leader

C. C. Lang
Associate Leader



Mylo S. Downey
Associate Leader



Fern Shipley
Associate Leader

Enclosures.

NOMINATIONS FOR 1954 NATIONAL CAMP CITATIONS

Friends of 4-H

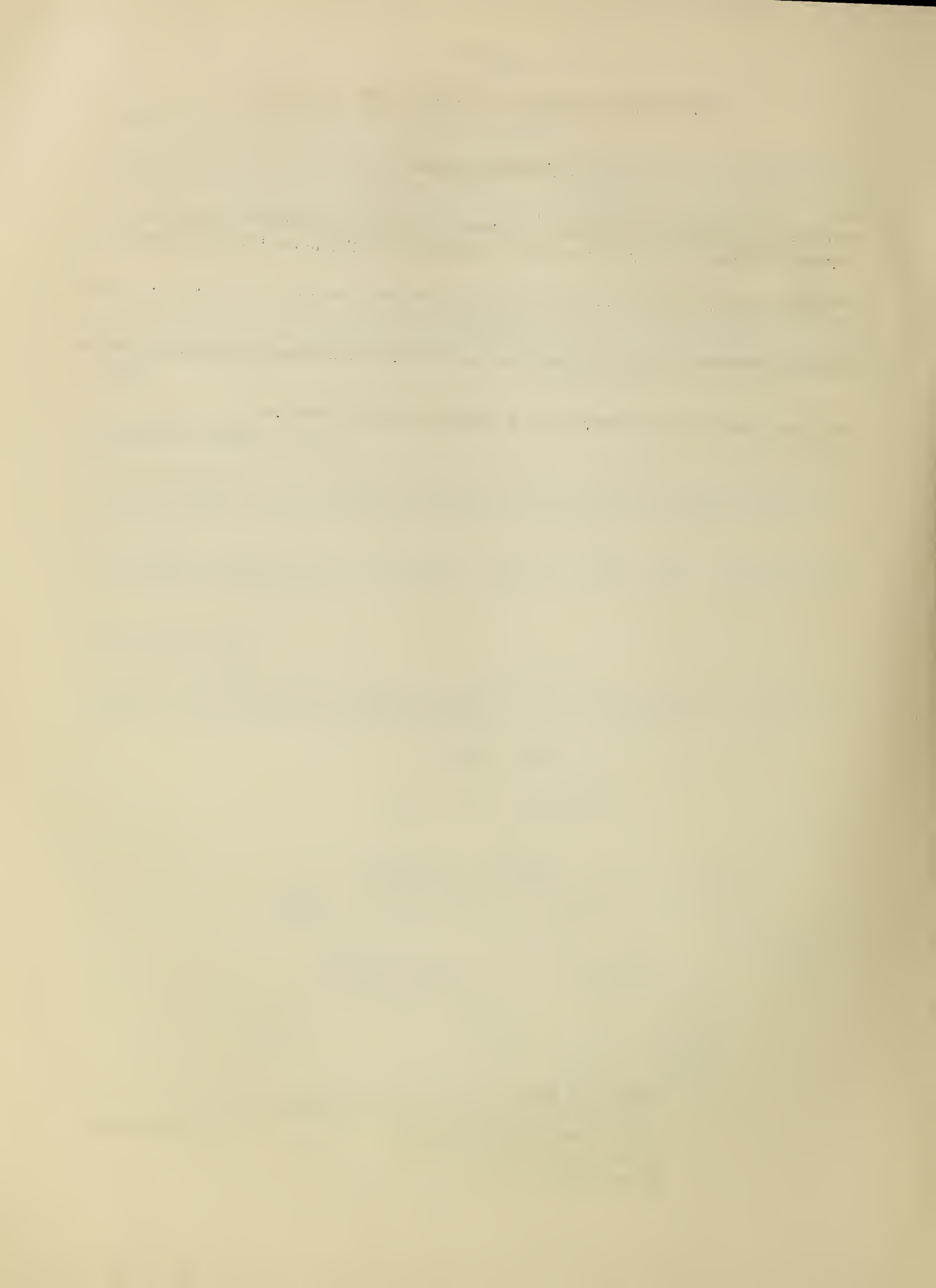
"Awarded to persons, who, over a period of years, have made distinct contributions to the Nation-wide development of the 4-H Club program."

Nominee _____

Present Address _____

Why this candidate is worthy of a National Camp Citation:

Return by May 1 to:
Division of 4-H Club and YMW Programs
Federal Extension Service
U. S. Dept. of Agriculture
Washington 25, D. C.



NOMINATIONS OF STATE CLUB WORKERS FOR NATIONAL CAMP RECOGNITIONS

State of _____

I. Camp Citation Recommendations:

Retired State and assistant State 4-H Club leaders who have served 25 years or more:

II. Gold Key Recommendations:

(a) State Records show that _____ has served in the State office as a 4-H Leader for _____ years.
(number)

(b) State Records show that _____ has worked with 4-H Clubs as a county Extension agent _____ years and as a State
(number)
or assistant State Club leader for _____ years.
(number)

Return by May 1 to:
Division of 4-H Club and YMW Programs
Federal Extension Service
U. S. Dept. of Agriculture
Washington 25, D. C.

